

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT SAMUEL DUVALL

HON. MARK DESAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with Speaker NANCY PELOSI to recognize the life of Robert Samuel "Sam" DuVall, legendary San Francisco restaurateur.

Born in Mississippi, Sam graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1962. During his time in college, Sam hosted dinner parties for his friends, introducing them to different kinds of food and unknowingly honing the hospitality that would foster his future career. Following graduation, Sam moved to San Francisco in 1964, which he ultimately made his home. While passing an empty storefront one day in 1967, Sam decided to open a restaurant, Front Room Pizza. He conducted research by eating pizza throughout San Francisco and hiring the best pizza chef he could find. With the opening of Front Room Pizza, Sam started a more than 50-year career as a restaurateur, during which he opened 30 restaurants.

One of Sam's most famous restaurants, Izzy's Steakhouse, opened in 1987 and became a gathering place for the community. Patrons were welcomed, not only with comforting meals, but also by Sam's renowned warmth and generosity. The restaurant was awarded Legacy Status on its 30th anniversary as part of an initiative to recognize iconic establishments in San Francisco. Sam's legacy lives on through his daughter, Samantha, who heads The DuVall Family Restaurant Group and continues operations of Izzy's. Another one of Sam's restaurant's, Elite Cafe, opened in 1981 and is known locally as the first New Orleans-style restaurant in San Francisco. Due to his love of traveling, jazz, and art, Sam's restaurants embodied his many passions and gave diners an immersive experience that allowed them to escape the bustling city.

Sadly, Sam passed away on November 1, 2020 at the age of 80. He was a cherished member of our communities and he will be deeply missed. Please join us in honoring Sam for his many contributions to the San Francisco Bay Area.

BAILEY OWENS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bailey Owens for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Bailey Owens is a student at Exel Academy and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Bailey Owens is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Bailey Owens for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING NICK PERBIX OF ELK RIVER, MINNESOTA

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nick Perbix of Elk River, Minnesota, for his participation in the 2022 Winter Olympics. Nick represented the United States as a defenseman on our men's ice hockey team. He carries on a legacy of talented Minnesotans who share this sport with the world.

I am proud to count such an amazing athlete among my constituents in the Sixth District. I congratulate Nick and thank him for representing our great state and country at the 2022 Winter Olympics.

HONORING CAPTAIN TIM CELLI

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Tim Celli in celebration of his outstanding career in the Clearlake Police Department.

Captain Celli was raised in Clearlake, California, attending Burns Valley Elementary School, Oak Hill Middle School, and Lower Lake High School. His interest in law enforcement began at an early age and led him to become a youth explorer in 1986. After graduating high school, Captain Celli joined the California National Guard in 1993, serving as a military policeman in the 649th Military Police Company.

The next year, Captain Celli graduated from the police academy and began serving as a reserve police officer in the city of Waterford, California. In 1995, Captain Celli returned home to Clearlake and served as a reserve

police officer and community service officer until 1999, when he was promoted to a full-time police officer. In his new role, he served as patrol officer, detective, field training officer, narcotics agent, explorer advisor, and president of the Clearlake Police Officers' Association.

In 2005, he was promoted to sergeant, supervising both the patrol unit and the Crime Suppression Unit, which was formed to address violent crime in Clearlake, California. In 2012, Captain Celli was promoted to Lieutenant, based on his excellent supervisory skills and his devotion to the community. In October 2015, Captain Celli took on the role of as interim chief of police, which he served as for over two years. In this role, he improved community engagement, introduced a dedicated traffic enforcement officer, addressed violent crime associated with illegal cannabis grows, and oversaw the department's response to numerous major fires.

In addition to being a devoted officer of the Clearlake Police Department, Captain Celli is an active community member through his participation in the Lion's Service Club and a devoted husband to his wife, Amanda, who he has been married to for 24 years. Additionally, he has served as a coach of youth football, high school football, and youth wrestling in Lake County. Captain Celli is retiring after a 26-year career in law enforcement.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Captain Celli has dedicated his life to the people of Clearlake through his public service. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

BERENICE MANUEL SAUCEDO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Berenice Manuel Saucedo for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Berenice Manuel Saucedo is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Berenice Manuel Saucedo is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Berenice Manuel Saucedo for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING VILLA DEL MAR
RESTAURANT

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Villa Del Mar Restaurant of McAllen, Texas, an international family business celebrating 35 years of business.

Mr. Homero and Mrs. María Cristina Garza de Villarreal opened Villa Del Mar in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico in 1987. In 2005, the Villarreal family opened its first location in McAllen, Texas, quickly setting the standard for Mexican seafood in the Rio Grande Valley. Since then, Villa Del Mar Restaurant has united two countries and its people through their delicious cuisine.

Villa Del Mar stands as a living testament to the success that can come when passion and hard work meet opportunity. The Villarreal family has faithfully served our community and now serves as an inspiration for all Texans aspiring to succeed in business. Now, after a total of 35 years of service to the people of South Texas, I am proud to acknowledge their contributions to our region on the House floor. Villa Del Mar is a staple of Valley cuisine, and because of their hard work, it will continue to be one of South Texans' favorite restaurants.

Madam Speaker, I stand here today to acknowledge the countless achievements and successes of Villa Del Mar Restaurant and the Villarreal family, who have devoted their lives to giving the people of South Texas the highest quality of seafood and service. South Texas will be forever grateful.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAKU AND
SUMGAIT POGROMS

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, as the Representative of America's largest and oldest Armenian population, I rise today to commemorate the Baku and Sumgait Pogroms and to reaffirm that the U.S. stands on the side of democracy and peace—and that means standing with the Armenian people.

Over 30 years ago, as the lines of the Soviet Union were fading, the people of Artsakh were united and voted for greater independence from Azerbaijan. But this peaceful movement for self-determination was followed by premeditated and government-sponsored attacks. Over the next two years, the Armenian population of Artsakh was repeatedly victim to brutal and racially motivated pogroms. Hundreds were murdered, and thousands were displaced in Baku, Sumgait and Kirovabad.

These pogroms were a direct assault on the right of self-determination in Artsakh. And it is an assault that is continuing today. In the fall of 2020, as the world was struggling to contain the corona virus pandemic, Azerbaijan launched yet another war of aggression against the peaceful people of Artsakh, destroying homes and villages and once again displacing thousands.

This violence is unacceptable, which is why I immediately called for a cease fire and have called for an end to U.S. military assistance to Azerbaijan. We must also ensure the humanitarian needs of the Armenian people are being met, which is something I have pushed Samantha Power, the Administrator of USAID, to help us do.

Having had the privilege of visiting Artsakh in October 2019, I've seen the pride of the people there and I know how strong they are. That is why I know that, just as their spirit could not be defeated after the Sumgait and Baku pogroms, it will not be defeated today.

I am proud to stand with the Armenian people in their fight for democracy and human rights and stand united in rejecting the violence from Azerbaijan that has destroyed too many lives.

DIVINITY DELMASTRO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Divinity Delmastro for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Divinity Delmastro is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Divinity Delmastro is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Divinity Delmastro for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING 2022 "FORCE OF NATURE"
AWARD WINNER CAROL
BROWNER

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Carol Browner, on being awarded the "Force of Nature" award by global non-profit Pure Earth. Her lifetime of dedication to protecting the environment and fighting for vulnerable populations makes Ms. Browner a true force of nature. Her significant contributions to environmental progress and sustainability are worthy of commendation.

Born in Miami, Florida, she is a graduate of the University of Florida and the University of Florida College of Law. At home in South Miami, Ms. Browner grew up around nature and developed her love and appreciation for our environment and their natural resources early on by spending time visiting the nearby Everglades. Her first role was in the Florida House of Representatives as General Coun-

sel, working to revise the Conservation and Recreational Lands Program. She later moved to Washington, DC to advocate for the environment and ended up working on Capitol Hill. She worked for Senator Lawton Chiles, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and as Legislative Director for Senator Al Gore. She then returned to her home state of Florida to serve as Secretary of Environmental Regulation.

After the election of President Bill Clinton, Ms. Browner was nominated for the position of Environmental Protection Agency Administrator. She was unanimously confirmed by the Senate on January 21, 1993. During this time, she notably helped strengthen the Clean Air Act and upped the United States position in the fight against global warming. After the end of the Clinton administration, she joined the Albright Group where she continued her work as an advocate for strengthening environmental regulations and fighting climate change. At the start of a new Democratic administration in 2009, President Barack Obama named her Director of the White House Office of Energy and Climate Change Policy. She helped negotiate the new automobile emission standards in 2009 and was a leader during the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010. During the Obama administration, she secured a historic investment in clean energy and established the first ever greenhouse gas reduction standards. Ms. Browner now serves on the board of directors for environmental groups, including as Chair for the League of Conservation Voters.

Ms. Browner's accomplishments are numerous and impactful, and in every place that she has served, she has done all in her power to create positive change and put beneficial climate policy in action. She has been on the front lines of environmental policy for the past three decades and shows no sign of stopping anytime soon. She was named winner of the "Force of Nature Award" for this year because of her ongoing efforts to protect children from environmental hazards, and for her recent establishment of the Protecting Every Child's Potential lead contamination prevention initiative.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Carol Browner as this year's "Force of Nature" award winner. We are grateful for her continued work on behalf of our environment and congratulate her on this great honor.

TRIBUTE TO SISTER THERESA
HARPIN—CALIFORNIA'S 24TH
CONGRESSIONAL WOMAN OF THE
YEAR

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, each year, through the Women of the Year Award, my office extends special recognition to women on the Central Coast who have made a difference in our community. I would like to recognize one outstanding Women of the Year Award recipient, Sister Theresa Harpin of San Luis Obispo, California.

With over 40 years as a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Sister Theresa looks at the world through the lens of

"everyone is our dear neighbor." While Cal Poly's Newman Catholic Center brought the gifted educator to the Central Coast, it is through her social and restorative justice work that she has truly made her mark.

On the heels of her energetic work with students and community parishes, and following medical leave for serious illness, she brought the "Get on the Bus" program to California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo County. A bus filled with the children and spouses of prisoners travels to the prison for a reunion party that offers hope for the families.

Sister Theresa has worked with the SLO County Sheriff, the California Department of Corrections, Parole and the Courts to make restorative justice a reality in San Luis Obispo County. This tireless, well respected community leader believes offenders were once victims whose own traumas were never addressed. She is devoted to healing those injuries so that once released, prisoners can move forward to productive lives.

Her fervent dedication to helping the incarcerated led to founding Restorative Partners, a program providing re-entry services to the incarcerated. Sister Theresa is a certified facilitator for the Alternatives to Violence Project, the Aggression Replacement Training and the Thinking for A Change Program. She has implemented and taught non-judgmental techniques and most importantly, restorative justice, which provides healing for all parties, both victim and offender.

Restorative Partners, founded over an In N Out Burger conversation with Sheriff Ian Parkinson, celebrates its tenth anniversary this year. The successful program has brought together law enforcement, private business and faith-based organizations, under the shared mission to "get to the source" of individual's issues and move forward.

In just ten years, Restorative Partners has expanded mentorship to help returning citizens navigate reentry. With an eye on the high cost of living on the Central Coast, RP now provides re-entry homes for men and women, including Anna's Home for Women and Children, which reunites formerly incarcerated mothers with their children while offering a drug treatment program. The challenges of COVID created an entirely new set of needs, chief among them domestic violence treatment and expanded drug and alcohol treatment. With Sister Theresa's leadership, Restorative Partners continues to evolve and offer life-changing support. What began started as an in-custody service, the non-profit organization has grown to meet any need of families affected by incarceration and the challenges of re-entry. And it is working: the recidivism rate for those Sister Theresa works with is only 10 percent.

Sister Theresa is an incredible presence in our community. I am honored to recognize Sister Theresa for her continued commitment to residents of San Luis Obispo County. I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 24th Congressional District, Sister Theresa Harpin, for her incredible service to her community.

ELLYSIA VEGA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ellysia Vega for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ellysia Vega is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ellysia Vega is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ellysia Vega for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TROY WADE EULOGY

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments and celebrate the life of Troy E. Wade.

Robert Oppenheimer once said of the great physicist Niels Bohr about his contribution to the development of the atomic bomb: "It was a heroic time. It was not the doing of any one man; it involved the collaboration of scores of scientists from many different lands. But from first to last, the deeply creative, subtle and critical spirit of Niels Bohr guided, restrained, deepened, and finally transmuted the enterprise."

I believe the same thing could be said of Troy Wade and the nuclear weapons testing program. He guided, restrained, deepened, and transmuted the enterprise for policy makers, posterity, and for me personally.

Troy certainly guided and transmuted the testing program for policy makers in his many positions in state and federal government, including as President Reagan's Assistant Secretary of Energy for Defense Programs. As NTS historian Darwin Morgan said, "He was not a Washington stuffed shirt." Instead, he was known to be a listener and used tact and tolerance to move his agenda which was always to protect this country and help promote peace.

This was confirmed when I had a political event at Desert Research Institute during my first campaign for Congress. Troy was there to keep an eye on things and reassure the sweet little lady docents that the secret service dogs were not going to run off with the prehistoric bones in the museum. When Vice President Biden arrived, before I could introduce them, he said, "Oh, I know Troy Wade. I sat across the table from him many times in the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee. He was a tough but fair negotiator. A straight shooter, some-

one you could trust." Obviously, no introduction was necessary.

Troy also translated the testing program for posterity. He wanted people to know the story, the whole story, of the test site and the men and women on the front lines who helped us win the Cold War. To this end, Troy leaned on Nick and Chuck and Bruce and Linda who refinanced their houses (without telling their spouses, although I bet Mary knew) to fund an atomic testing museum. The museum, thankfully, was a success. It is Smithsonian-sanctioned and draws thousands of visitors annually, from local school children to foreign dignitaries alike. And it indeed tells the whole story. In addition to bomb replicas, it relates the plight of the downwinders and offers a wonderful exhibit on the impact of the bomb on U.S. popular culture.

Troy and I got in a bit of trouble, however, when I introduced a bill in the state legislature to create a special license plate to raise money for the museum. We wanted to put a mushroom cloud on it. As George Knapp quipped on Channel 8 News, it "would kick sand in the face of any other plate on the road." Governor Guinn, unfortunately, vetoed our choice and we settled for the stylized atom design offered today.

Finally, Troy transmuted the enterprise for me personally. He patiently answered questions as I did research for my book and often steered me in the right direction. He helped me secure AEC documents and records for the public reading room of the museum and he spoke to my classes. Most importantly, he became my friend. I often referred to Troy as the "ultimate cold warrior". I hope he took it as a compliment, because that's certainly how I meant it. Like so many of his family, friends, and coworkers, I will miss him very much. As will a grateful Nation.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM C. BAKER ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House to join me in recognizing William C. Baker for his thirty-nine years of environmental advocacy as President of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF). Will has demonstrated a sincere passion for improving the health of the Bay and ensuring that its environmental resources are preserved for future generations. Will has been a good friend, and I've been proud to work closely with him throughout the years to fight for a cleaner and healthier Chesapeake Bay.

Since he first began his distinguished career with the CBF as an intern in 1976, Will worked relentlessly to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay. Will became president in 1982, inheriting an immediate crisis: the 1982 Chesapeake Bay Study had just concluded that the Bay was dying. He spoke to the United States Senate, urging senators not only to maintain the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) presence on the Bay but to establish an office to coordinate and monitor restoration efforts among the states in its watershed. Thanks to

his advocacy and hard work, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, the EPA, and the Chesapeake Bay Commission together signed the Chesapeake Bay Agreement and committed jointly to clean up the Bay.

During Will's tenure as president, the CBF reached new heights of success. His work helped expand the CBF's membership to over 300,000 and inspired so many Marylanders to share his passion for preserving one of our nation's greatest natural treasures. He raised the CBF's national profile, and the Save the Bay movement received international attention. Under Will's leadership, the CBF received the 1992 Presidential Medal for Environmental Excellence—our nation's highest environmental honor—for its environmental education program. He was instrumental in the CBF's efforts to help restore the Bay's oyster population, which is critical not only to preserving a fragile ecosystem but also to sustaining and supporting one of the key aquaculture industries in our state. Although challenges remain, the CBF's efforts have greatly improved the Bay's health and continue to drive efforts forward today to ensure that generations of Marylanders and Americans will be able to treasure the Chesapeake in the future.

Madam Speaker, I offer Will my congratulations on retiring from public service after a career of great contribution to the well-being of Maryland's beloved Chesapeake Bay. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in recognizing William C. Baker as he celebrates this milestone and in wishing him all the best in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES A. CONAHAN, GREATER WILKES-BARRE FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, today I honor James A. Conahan who will be named the 2022 Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Man of the Year at the organization's annual gathering on Friday, March 11, 2022. James joins an impressive cohort of men recognized by the Friendly Sons as Man of the Year, including his father who was honored in 2002.

James, born and raised in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, is the son of James Francis and Clare Conahan. He graduated from E.L. Meyers High School with the Class of 1981 and went on to attend King's College, earning a degree in health care management and playing baseball for the Monarchs.

James began his career in the health care field at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital in Kingston, Pennsylvania, where he worked as the manager of the sterile processing and distribution department. Following his work at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, he joined the staff at Scranton Community Medical Center, now Geisinger CMC, as the operating room materials manager. For the past 24 years, James has worked as an executive sales account manager for 3M Medical Solutions Division where he serves the acute hospital market.

James has been a longtime supporter and member of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly

Sons of St. Patrick, promoting and preserving Irish heritage in our region. He has served as president and president advisor, and he is the current chair of the Annual Golf Committee and Scholarship Committee, which supports a scholarship for local college students of Irish descent. He has been, and continues to be, involved in many of the Friendly Sons' endeavors, including the guest bartender program, the annual Wilkes-Barre St. Patrick's Day celebration, and the Irish teacher's program. In 2014, he was awarded the prestigious Michael "Mickey" Hayden Memorial Award by past president and Hayden's grandson, Patrick Peters, for his commitment preserving the region's Irish heritage.

In addition to his service to the Friendly Sons, James has been a familiar face throughout the community, lending his time and expertise to organizations in the area. As a former collegiate baseball player, he shared his love and knowledge of the game as an official for the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and as president of the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the PIAA Baseball Umpires. He spent ten years on the board of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority as chair of the Personnel Committee and assistant treasurer. As a lifelong resident of Wilkes-Barre, James has been actively involved in promoting the growth and development of the city. He currently sits on the boards of the Wilkes-Barre Parking Authority and Wilkes-Barre Municipal Authority. He also serves as ad hoc chair of the Wilkes-Barre Redevelopment Authority.

It is an honor to join with the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in recognizing James as the Man of the Year. He has been a great champion of the City of Wilkes-Barre and the preservation of Irish American heritage in the region. I wish him all the best on St. Patrick's Day.

RECOGNIZING BEN MEYERS OF DELANO, MINNESOTA

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ben Meyers, from my hometown of Delano, Minnesota. During the 2022 Winter Olympics, Ben played on the United States men's ice hockey team as a forward.

Ben comes to Team USA from the University of Minnesota, where he is a junior. He serves as the team captain for the Gophers.

I congratulate Ben on making it to the Olympics. We're lucky to have such a talented young athlete in our backyard.

EVAN YELLOWFOX

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Evan Yellowfox for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Evan Yellowfox is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his

determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Evan Yellowfox is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Evan Yellowfox for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING CONNIE MILLER ON 45 YEARS AT THE BROWN HOUSE

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Connie Miller of Auburn, who just celebrated her 45th year working at The Brown House restaurant.

Known for delicious ice cream and savory coney hot dogs, The Brown House has served the community of Auburn since 1949 when it first opened as a concession stand at the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair. Few things have changed about it since.

Two weeks before her 16th birthday in 1977, Connie started working at The Brown House. At the time, she was a sophomore working part time and did not intend to be there long. She was hired by owners Tom and Marcia Armstrong, who would operate the business for a total of 43 years until their respective retirement in 2019—yet further proof of the restaurant's continuity.

Connie is definitive when asked what she enjoys most about her job. "People," she says. When regulars patron the restaurant, they talk with her and ask about her on the occasion she is not there. She provides more than just a well-prepared meal, but a smile and fellowship to friends and patrons—in her eyes, one in the same.

People like Connie make our community and country great. As American hero Agnes Meyer Driscoll once said, "Fortunate are the people whose roots are deep." Few people's roots run deeper in Auburn than Connie, and our community is eternally grateful for it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, due to an emergency landing and the necessary cleanup at the airport, my flight to D.C. was significantly delayed.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 58 and YEA on Roll Call No. 59.

ILIA ORTIZ BAEZA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ilia Ortiz Baeza for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ilia Ortiz Baeza is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ilia Ortiz Baeza is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ilia Ortiz Baeza for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING REAR ADMIRAL
RAYMOND CHARLES SMITH, JR.

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rear Admiral Raymond Charles Smith, Jr. in celebration of his outstanding career in the U.S. Navy.

Rear Admiral Raymond Charles Smith, Jr. was born and raised in Vallejo, California, graduating from St. Vincent's High School in 1961. Admiral Smith began his career in the Navy in 1962. Shortly after enlisting, he attended the U.S. Naval Academy, which he graduated from in 1967. Later, in 1974, he earned a master's degree in Physical Oceanography from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

Admiral Smith served as First Lieutenant on USS *Floyd B. Parks* for two years before participating in Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL Training. After graduating from his SEAL Training in 1970, Admiral Smith served in a variety of positions on Underwater Demolition Team Thirteen, including as Ordinance Officer, Operations Officer, and Platoon Commander.

In August 1990, he deployed to the Arabian Gulf in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, where he led Naval Special Warfare Task Group Central during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Then in June 1992, he assumed command of Naval Special Warfare Command at Coronado, California, where he was responsible for over 2,300 SEALs and support personnel. From 1996 to 1998, Admiral Smith moved to Tampa, Florida, and served as both Director of Resources and the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Special Operations Command. He retired from active duty in 2001 after 34 years of service.

During his retirement, Admiral Smith devoted himself to his three passions: family, fitness, and community service. Admiral Smith

was described as a great husband, father, and friend. He was married to his wife, Kathleen, for 54 years, with whom he had three sons: Raymond III, Nate, and Adam. Admiral Smith passed away peacefully at his home in Coronado, California, on February 6, 2022.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Rear Admiral Raymond Charles Smith, Jr. dedicated his life to military service and our country. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

WYATT WILSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Wyatt Wilson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Wyatt Wilson is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Wyatt Wilson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Wyatt Wilson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHEN YUN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Shen Yun, and welcome it back to Lincoln Center for its 17th anniversary. Shen Yun is a classical Chinese dance and music company with the mission of preserving traditional Chinese culture. The name Shen Yun means "the beauty of divine beings dancing." Shen Yun preserves, memorializes, and revitalizes ancient Chinese stories and traditions, introducing this rich culture and art form to New Yorkers and many other people around the world.

In 2006, a group of Chinese artists, persecuted by the Chinese Communist Party for practicing Falun Dafa, founded Shen Yun to preserve their traditions and ancient history, which has been under threat since the Cultural Revolution. These artists chose to gather in New York, a testament to this city's status as a haven for the arts, culture, and freedom. Shen Yun creates a new performance each year dedicated to these principles.

Shen Yun's performances draw from historical Chinese stories and legends such as Mulan and Journey to the West. Its dances are accompanied by traditional Chinese instruments such as the pipa, suona, and dizi.

Three of Shen Yun's performers were recipients of the Chinese Ministry of Culture's "National First-Class Performer Awards".

Shen Yun currently has seven troupes that travel and perform all around the world. The troupes perform in over 130 cities in North America, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Latin America. In their first three years of touring, over 1 million people attended Shen Yun performances.

I congratulate them for their unwavering devotion not only to putting on a fantastic show, but to preserving cultural treasures for future generations.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Shen Yun for celebrating thousands of years of Chinese culture and history through traditional dance, orchestration, costumes, and more.

RECOGNIZING MADDIE ROONEY OF
ANDOVER, MINNESOTA

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maddie Rooney of Andover, Minnesota, for her participation in the 2022 Winter Olympics. Maddie joined Team USA and played as goalkeeper on the women's ice hockey team.

Maddie comes to the Olympic team from the University of Minnesota Duluth Bulldogs women's ice hockey program. In 2018, she was awarded the Bob Allen Women's Player of the Year Award from USA Hockey.

Her training and hard work paid off: She helped bring home a silver medal for the United States. I congratulate Maddie on this great result at the 2022 Winter Games.

JANCY MENDOZA MANCIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jancy Mendoza Mancia for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Jancy Mendoza Mancia is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jancy Mendoza Mancia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jancy Mendoza Mancia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RETIRED BIG BEAR LAKE MAYOR NEAL HERTZMANN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS PASSING

HON. JAY OBERNOLTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the passing of Neal Hertzmann, a constituent of my district and former Mayor of my hometown of Big Bear Lake, California. Neal was an exceptional and dedicated public servant. He served Big Bear Lake as its mayor from 1994 to 1998 and served Southern California for over twenty years including as a member of the Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power Board, a Councilman for the City of Big Bear Lake, and as Big Bear Lake's representative on the League of California Cities, just to name a few of his roles. In each position, Neal never lost sight of the unique qualities that make each of us proud to call our community home.

In addition to his extensive public service, Neal was an innovative mechanical engineer by trade, and diligently worked on several of the Falcon missiles for Hughes Aircraft, which were among the very first operational guided air-to-air missiles adopted by the United States Air Force. His creative originality and expertise also proved vital in the development and success of the Surveyor program, which consisted of seven unmanned lunar missions launched between May 1966 and January 1968, five of which successfully soft-landed on the lunar surface. The legendary success of the Apollo 11 mission would not have been possible if not for the crucial developments pioneered by great men like Neal.

Throughout his life, Neal sought opportunities to directly engage with neighbors, to meet new people, and to lend a helping hand wherever he could. I am honored to have had the chance to know him and call him my friend, and I can say from firsthand experience how impactful his continuous dedication has been for our community. My prayers are with his family and the City of Big Bear Lake as we mourn the loss of this dedicated public servant.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT PETER BLUME, JR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today in recognition of the loss of a champion of his community—Fire Police Lieutenant Peter Blume, Jr., of Vernon, Connecticut. Pete, as he was known, tragically left this world, still active in his service as a first responder, on March 2, 2022, at the age of 53. A guardian to his fellow service members, Lieutenant Pete Blume has served with the Fire Police company for the last six years. He was known for his particularly infectious degree of optimism and was eating to all.

Born to Carolyn Bolk Blume and Peter Blume on December 24, 1968, in South Windsor, Pete was destined to live out his life as a source of energy within eastern Connecticut's communities. Upon graduating from South Windsor High, Pete went on to Eastern Connecticut State University where he achieved a degree in physical education in 1991. A true steward of the community, he devoted the next nearly 20 years of his life to teaching as an elementary school physical education teacher for Ashford and Union, Connecticut. He was deeply passionate toward the growth of our region's youngest generation, engaging with students as a youth program leader, the coach for the Ashford boys' basketball team and even by taking on the title of Chef Blume as a cook for Union's annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser.

Amidst his earlier days in teaching, Pete fostered a relationship with the love of his life, Wendy, who he married in 1996. It was through their relationship that Pete's love for raising children transformed him into quite the family man, with the birth of their two children Allison and Timothy. Together, the family moved to Vernon, Connecticut where the children became an inspiration to Pete, catalyzing an entirely new era of community involvement. It was throughout this new era that Pete grew in his already known love for youth sports, coaching and volunteering for his kids' teams in Vernon Little League, Vernon Soccer and Vernon Basketball.

Pete's involvement with the Town of Vernon did not stop with his coaching the next generation. As we all know, he took an interest in and joined the Vernon Fire Department as a fire police officer, becoming the man responsible for the safety of fellow first responders at the scene of an incident. Pete was the perfect man for the job—he was the kind of person who would give you the shut off his back if you needed it. As such, he was known for bringing an unmatched sense of diligence and care to the role, which he took incredibly seriously. For Pete, the safety of those who displayed similar care toward his own neighbors was paramount. He was most recently recognized for his diligence, becoming a 1st Lieutenant with the Vernon Fire Police company which he again served with for more than six years.

Madam Speaker, we ask firefighters and their families to do an enormously important job across our community, our state, and our nation. Standing by every day of the year at all hours, Pete, Vernon's "gentle giant," has given true example to the dedication that first responders arm themselves with while serving their respective communities. In Pete's case, he was also armed with a heart the size of Vernon. These brave men and women unquestionably deserve the very best we can offer as a small form of gratitude for their sacrifice. While we mourn the void left by Pete's loss, we find consolation in the memory he leaves behind. He is survived by his loving family, namely, his wife Wendy, who is also a teacher in Manchester, his two children Timothy and Allison Blume, his mother Carolyn Blume, his brother, David Blume, and his sister Kristin McCauley. While his family will undoubtedly carry the legwork in extending the reach of his memory, I ask that my colleagues join me in supporting this effort, thanking Pete for a life of service and setting his name and character further into stone.

MEADOW MONDRAGON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Meadow Mondragon for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Meadow Mondragon is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Meadow Mondragon is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Meadow Mondragon for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PASSING OF DOROTHY L.W. SMITH

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise on International Women's Day to honor the life of Ms. Dorothy L.W. Smith, a dedicated educator and San Diego community leader who passed at the age of 82 on February 16th. Ms. Smith was a native of Capleville, Tennessee. She attended the Historically Black College, Philander Smith College, and later received her Doctorate degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California.

In 1969 Ms. Smith and her husband Carl moved to California where she began her career as a teacher. After moving to California, she taught at Long Beach City College, Grossmont Community College, and later San Diego City College, where she was a professor for 24 years. While teaching at San Diego City College she designed various courses, including one entitled "Black Women in Literature and the Media." This course has now been taught in the San Diego Community College District for more than 45 years. She also lectured at San Diego State University, where she taught courses in teacher education, rhetoric, and writing. She also lectured at San Diego State University where she taught courses in teacher education, rhetoric, and writing.

In 1981, she was elected to serve on the board of the San Diego Unified School District, becoming the first African American woman to be elected to the board. She served on the school board for eight years and twice was the President of the board. In March of 2019, she was recognized and elected to the San Diego Women's Hall of Fame in the Trailblazer category. Today, we celebrate her life and her commitment as an educator and mentor to future teachers.

IN RECOGNITION OF HARDIN
WATKINS

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Hardin Watkins' recent retirement as City Manager of Burlington, North Carolina.

With his retirement on March 4, 2022, Mr. Watkins ended a 32-year career in public service. For the past six of those years, he has diligently worked to better the lives of the people of Burlington. Residents and city employees alike will miss his wealth of experience and institutional knowledge.

A native of Hendersonville, North Carolina, Mr. Watkins attended the University of North Carolina where he earned both his Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy Analysis and his Masters of Public Administration. After completing his education, he accepted a position as a city planner in Bennettsville, South Carolina. He was soon offered a new challenge in Decatur, Georgia, where he was hired as an assistant to the city manager. Mr. Watkins was rewarded for his hard work and dedication to the communities he served, and he was offered the position of City Manager of Suwanee, Georgia. However, after nearly a decade in that role, he returned to his home state in 2007 to manage the Town of Garner, North Carolina. Finally, in 2016, he was hired as the City Manager of Burlington.

The breadth of his work to improve the City of Burlington is remarkable. Within his six years at the helm of city government, Mr. Watkins was instrumental in creating the city's Economic Development Department, establishing the Community Police Advisory Team, and launching Link Transit in Burlington. Residents of Burlington will also be thankful for his efforts to restore the city's antique Dentzel carousel and overhaul the city's publicly owned golf course.

Although Mr. Watkins has begun a new stage of life, he does not intend to idle in his retirement. Instead, he intends to continue his long record of improving communities. But perhaps most importantly, he will have well-deserved time to spend with his family.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Mr. Hardin Watkins for his three decades of public service and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

TRINITY GARCIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Trinity Garcia for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Trinity Garcia is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Trinity Garcia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perse-

verance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Trinity Garcia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

SHADOW WOLVES ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5681 the Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act, to authorize the reclassification of the tactical enforcement officers (commonly known as the "Shadow Wolves") in the Homeland Security Investigations tactical patrol unit operating on the lands of the Tohono O'odham Nation as special agents.

The "Shadow Wolves" are a Native American tactical patrol unit assigned to Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) unit in Sells, Arizona located on the Tohono O'odham Nation and was established by Congress in 1974.

These officers specialize in the interdiction of human and drug smugglers in the rugged terrain of the Sonoran Desert.

Under this bill, Shadow Wolves serving in these positions would be reclassified as GS-1811 special agents.

As GS-1811 special agents, these officers would gain the statutory authority to carry firearms, conduct searches & seizures, make arrests, and receive a pay increase from an average of \$37,000 a year to \$50,000.

Under existing authority, "Shadow Wolves" can only be hired as tactical officers at a lower paygrade, and those who wish to become HIS special agents receive no special consideration, which has caused pay and mobility limitations.

Due to these limitations, the Shadow Wolves program is at risk of becoming non-operational as officers retire.

There are currently eight Shadow Wolves employed by ICE, five of whom meet the training requirements for conversion to the new pay status.

The Act would also require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a strategy to retain existing Shadow Wolves, recruit new officers to the unit, and expand comparable units along the Canadian and Mexican borders.

One year after the development of the strategy by the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) would be required to submit a report, as well as annually for the following 2 years, that will assess the effectiveness of this strategy and provide recommendations for improvement.

I would like to personally thank the eight members of the Native American Tactical Patrol Unit in the Tohono O'odham Nation for their work on preventing human trafficking and drug smuggling along our borders. Their work is of vital importance to the security of our Nation and our citizens.

And on behalf of the constituents of the 18th Congressional District of Texas, I would also

like to thank all tactical enforcement officers from the United States Secret Service, United States Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Homeland Security Investigations.

It is our duty as Members of Congress to ensure that these officers are receiving fair pay for the hard work that they have undertaken.

Madam Speaker, I strongly support this legislation and urge all Members to vote in favor of H.R. 5681, the Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF
JENIFER JEAN WRIGHT JOHNSON

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the life of Jenifer Jean Wright Johnson. Jean passed away on February 6th, 2022.

Jean was born on January 25, 1938, in Rockledge, Alabama. She attended classes at Jacksonville Teachers College on the GI Bill and met her husband, Earl "PeeWee" Johnson at a school dance.

The two were married on March 5th, 1957, at West Side Baptist Church. They were blessed with four children.

After Jean graduated college, she worked as a substitute teacher. She took a job at Johnston Junior High in Anniston as the physical education teacher responsible also for the cheerleaders and girls' sports teams.

A few years later, she was approached by church elders and city council members from Jacksonville to start a low-income day care program. She worked to help raise funding to update the former Eastwood High School as well as working with the State of Alabama help secure funding.

On September 30, 1970, the Jacksonville Day Care Center opened and also created a summer program. Jean took over as Director of East Alabama Child Development Centers and was responsible for over 20 day care centers across 11 counties.

Jean had a heart for children and a great love for accessories. She will be missed.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Jean's life of service.

DHS BASIC TRAINING ACCREDITATION
IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5616, the "DHS Basic Training Accreditation Improvement Act of 2021" which addresses issues involving accreditation and law enforcement training, research, and development at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

This bill requires DHS to report annually to the congressional homeland security committees on the accreditation status for each basic training program within DHS.

If a basic training program loses accreditation, the relevant DHS component shall notify the department within 30 days after such loss.

H.R. 5616 also would require the DHS Science and Technology Directorate to carry out research and development to enhance state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement access to training on homeland security threats.

Program level academic accreditation requires a discipline to have identified and vetted a set of student learning outcomes.

Without accreditation it remains extremely difficult for a discipline to demonstrate true legitimacy because there would be an absence of standards associated with the curriculum and teaching methods.

Professional legitimacy requires that, integrated with the discipline, is a recognized accreditation process which helps develop incentives for academic programs to adopt accreditation into a widespread practice.

There is a recognized need for responders from all disciplines, including public sector professionals, to have the knowledge, skills and abilities that allow them to participate in Homeland Protection activities.

Homeland Protection activities are common to both the public and private sector and include prevention, preparedness, protection, mitigation, response and recovery from, "all hazards", including terrorism.

Employers must know that their employees and prospective employees have demonstrated competency in the area of Homeland Protection.

Professionals must have a predetermined blend of experience and education, show completed course work in the knowledge areas required by the Certification Board and take an online course and pass the Homeland Protection Professional test.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that meeting the reporting requirements of the bill would cost DHS less than \$500,000 over the 2022 through 2026 period.

For programs that are not accredited, the Secretary must provide the reasons for not obtaining or maintaining accreditation, the activities, taken to achieve accreditation, and the anticipated timeline for accreditation of the program.

Unfortunately, several DHS law enforcement basic training programs are not accredited, including the U.S. Border Patrol Academy, Customs and Border Protection's Field Operations Academy Officer Basic Training Program, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' Officer Basic Training Program.

In some cases, programs have been unaccredited for several years, e.g., the Border Patrol Academy submitted an initial application in 2006 but did not pursue accreditation further.

As the Chairwoman of the Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security Subcommittee, I believe efficient training can and will save lives, and that Department of Homeland Security officers deserve the highest standards of preparation.

Proper training is the only way our authorities can safely and effectively carry out their missions.

Madam Speaker, we need to ensure that our DHS officers are properly trained and educated on their basic trainings.

I urge all members to join me in voting to pass H.R. 5616, the "DHS Basic Training Accreditation Improvement Act of 2021", which is critical to ensuring the safety of all Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF FRANK CROW

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the life of Frank Crow who passed away on February 23, 2022, doing what he loved to do—spending time outside on a snowmobile in Gallatin National Forest in Yellowstone National Park.

Frank lived in Jacksonville, Alabama, and was born on June 11, 1956. Everyone knew when Frank Crow entered the room because he always ended up being the center of attention. Not surprisingly, he even exited this world as the center of attention.

Frank was born in Ludwigshafen, Germany, as the first of two children. After traveling the world as a military brat, his family relocated to Oneonta, Alabama, where he graduated with the class of 1974 from Oneonta High School.

He received his undergraduate from Jacksonville State University in 1977, where he was an active member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity. Frank served in the U.S. Army for 12 years with training as an Airborne Ranger Infantryman "Grunt". His leadership talents were used with two company commands and two overseas tours (Germany and Korea). His attention to detail and vision groomed his soldiers to raise the bar and exceed in all areas. He exited the military with the rank of Major in 1989. He loved this country. After leaving the Military, Frank received two Masters' Degrees from Jacksonville State University. He also enjoyed substitute teaching and coaching football at Jacksonville High School.

He lived a robust and full life. He was blessed with a loving family and wonderful friends. He loved being outside, hunting, fishing, skiing, motorcycling and snowmobile riding. His talent for helping Veterans was his passion. He loved receiving calls from the individuals he helped with positive news from the VA. Many of the veterans he helped appreciated his knowledge of the process that aided in the veterans increased benefits. "After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen, and establish you." 1 Peter 5:10

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Frank's life of service and dedication to our country and our Veterans. He will be greatly missed.

HOMELAND SECURITY CAPABILITIES PRESERVATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5615 the Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to make Federal assistance available to certain urban areas that previously received Urban Area Security Initiative funding and were removed from the program.

Then, the DHS Secretary is required to submit a plan to Congress on how to make Federal assistance available to former UASI jurisdictions to help them take on the costs of preserving UASI-funded homeland security programs.

In the wake of September 11, 2001, there was a recognition that U.S. urban centers could be terrorist targets and did not have the resources to develop core capabilities to prevent, protect against, and respond to terrorist attacks and other catastrophic events on their own.

Over the past 18 years, UASI has played an instrumental role in helping these cities prevent and respond to terrorist threats and attacks.

As a member of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery, I received testimony from Orlando Police Chief Orlando Rolon that addressed this issue.

Police Chief Rolon testified that, for local law enforcement who are on the "front lines of responding to any emergency, whether it be a terrorist attack, natural disaster, or global pandemic, FEMA preparedness grants are critical resources that bolster law enforcement's ability to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks and other associated threats."

Year-to-year changes in the terrorism risk picture, fluctuations in grant funding levels, and changes in DHS' risk formula can result in jurisdictions suddenly falling out of the program, after years of critical investment.

The sudden loss of Federal support for maintaining essential homeland security capabilities can place great strain on cities that may not have the resources to cover these costs.

Jurisdictions that lost UASI grant funding often seek to continue partnering with DHS to ensure that they can maintain the security capabilities they achieved with UASI. These jurisdictions could be helped under H.R. 5615.

This bill will help jurisdictions preserve their level of security capabilities by directing DHS to develop a plan for how to support the transition of costs associated with maintaining UASI-funded homeland security core capabilities.

Madam Speaker, I strongly support this legislation and urge all Members to vote for the H.R. 5615, Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act.